

# Identification of High Ability Learners: Tests, Tools, Tips

**Date:** November 10, 2008

**Time:** 9:00AM-3:00PM (Registration begins at 8:30AM with continental breakfast)

**Site:** Swan Lake Resort, Plymouth, IN

**Fee:** **FREE!** Breakfast, Lunch, and Materials are included

**Deadline:** November 4, 2008 (Registration is required); CRUs will be available

*This event is funded by the Indiana Department of Education, Office of High Ability Education and is provided to Indiana public school educators at no charge.*

**Presenters: Dr. Kristie Speirs Neumeister and Dr. Virginia Burney**

This is a Hands-On Workshop where participants will work in pairs or small groups. Participants will:

- Learn what is contained in a defensible student assessment plan (identification protocol)
- Understand how identification procedures integrate with the other components of a system of services for high ability students.
- Review actual group testing materials for ease of use, fit with services, cost, appropriateness for setting and demographics.
- Consider other non-test measures to be used for a multifaceted plan
- Review sample high ability assessment plans (identification protocols) for consistency and appropriateness.
- Begin the process of creating or modifying an existing plan for their school corporation that is consistent with the mandate and appropriate for their individual settings.

While not necessary, it would be helpful for participants to bring as much information as possible about their district that is relevant to identification, e.g. mission statement, district definition, philosophy, policies on acceleration, exit procedures, appeals procedures, district demographics, and description of services.

## **About the Presenters:**

Dr. Ginny Burney is a Consultant for High Ability Programs with the Indiana Education Project at Ball State University, where she also teaches a course in the series for High Ability Licensure. She has two graduate degrees in guidance and counseling and has worked as a school counselor and guidance director. Ginny is a past president of the Indiana Association for the Gifted and recently concluded five years of service on the National Association for Gifted Children's Board of Directors.

Dr. Kristie Speirs Neumeister is an Assistant Professor at Ball State University in the Educational Psychology Department where she teaches graduate courses in gifted education. She is on the board of directors for the Indiana Association for the Gifted and the Council for Exceptional Children: The Association for the Gifted. Her research interests center on the social and emotional needs of gifted students.

**Materials:** We will supply tests with psychometric properties that make them appropriate for high ability learners. While participants will not get to take the tests home, they will review all tests, so they can compare and find what would be good for their district. Participants will complete a worksheet with considerations for their district on components covered in the workshop.

Register for this workshop at [www.r8esc.k12.in.us](http://www.r8esc.k12.in.us) and click on Workshops.